

Application No. 09/882,719
Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
April 14, 2005
Page No. 2

Remarks: General

I.

The claims have been amended by canceling Claims 18~23 and 40~53 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, and adding new Claims 83~91. No new matter is added by these amendments.

A supplemental Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98 is enclosed with respect to U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0092207 (which is also assigned to Nano-Proprietary, Inc.), for which the fee stated in §1.17(p) is due by reason of §1.97(c)(2). Please charge this fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

The fees due by reason of the addition of claims in this amendment are calculated on the attached sheet and may be charged to Deposit Account No. 04-1928. If the calculation on the attached sheet is in error, please charge or credit Deposit Account No. 04-1928 accordingly. If any other fee is required to authorize or obtain consideration of this amendment or the enclosed IDS, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1928.

Claims 1~17, 24~27, 29~39 and 54~91 are now active in the application.

II.

Industrial Technology Research Institute

Claims 83~85 are supported in the present application, and in Provisional Applications

No. 60/213,002 (filed June 21, 2000),
No. 60/213,159 (filed June 22, 2000) and
No. 60/287,930 (filed May 1, 2001),
to which the present application claims priority.

In general, these applications disclose a process for improving the field emission of an electron field emitter that is prepared from an acicular substance such as carbon nanotubes. In the process, a force is applied to the surface of the electron field emitter such that the acicular substance is lifted in a direction

Application No. 09/882,719
Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
April 14, 2005
Page No. 3

essentially normal to and outward from the surface. Application of such a force results in the removal of a portion of the existing electron field emitter, and forms a new surface thereof. When the acicular substance is carbon nanotubes, the application of such a force would result in an increase in the amount of the carbon nanotubes exposed on the surface of the electron field emitter. The force can be applied by contacting, with the surface of the electron field emitter, a material that forms an adhesive contact therewith. The material is separated from the electron field emitter, and a portion of the electron field emitter is removed thereby, thus fracturing the electron field emitter and forming a new surface thereof.

The electron field emitter improved by such process is also disclosed, and it may be formed by fabricating a composition of a screen printable paste that contains solids, which may include, for example, carbon nanotubes and particles. A cathode, for example, may be formed from such composition, and may be subjected to a taping process where an adhesive tape is adhered to the surface of the cathode and is then removed. An electron field emitter is found to have improved emission current as a result of being subjected to the process as described and claimed in this application.

The location in the present application, and in each of the provisional applications in the chain to which priority is claimed, of the specific words and phrases used in Claims 83~85 is shown in the following tables:

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 4

Support in Applicant's Priority Applications for Claim 83

	Present Application SN 09/882,719	Provisional Appl. No. 60/287,930	Provisional Appls. No. 60/213,002 60/213,159
a method for emitter improvement	page 2, lines 37-38	page 3, lines 2-3	page 2, lines 37-38
carbon nanotube surface	page 3, line 16	page 3, lines 19	page 3, line 22
electronic device	page 3, line 2	page 3, line 5	page 3, line 2
forming a new surface	page 10, line 11	page 10, line 12	page 9, line 10
triode	page 3, lines 3-4	page 3, lines 6-7	page 3, line 5
carbon nanotube field emitter display	page 10, line 11	page 10, line 12	page 9, line 10
improve the emission current of the	page 4, lines 1-2	page 4, lines 4-5	page 4, lines 6-7
carbon nanotube emitter	page 14, line 11	page 14, line 11	page 10, line 36
coating	page 9, line 9	page 9, line 11	page 8, line 27
adhesive material	page 8, lines 31-32	page 8, lines 33-34	page 8, line 18-19
heating	page 9, line 12	page 9, line 14	page 8, line 30
forming an adhesive contact	page 8, lines 31-32	page 8, line 34	page 8, lines 18-19
separating the adhesive material	page 8, line 33	page 8, line 35	page 8, line 20

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 5

Support in Applicant's Priority Applications for Claim 84

	Present Application SN 09/882,719	Provisional Appl. No. 60/287,930	Provisional Appls. No. 60/213,002 60/213,159
a method for emitter improvement	page 2, lines 37~38	page 3, lines 2~3	page 2, lines 37~38
carbon nanotube	page 3, line 16	page 3, lines 19	page 3, line 22
surface	page 3, line 2	page 3, line 5	page 3, line 2
electronic device	page 10, line 11	page 10, line 12	page 9, line 10
forming a new surface	page 3, lines 3~4	page 3, lines 6~7	page 3, line 5
triode	page 10, line 11	page 10, line 12	page 9, line 10
carbon nanotube field emitter display	page 4, lines 1~2	page 4, lines 4~5	page 4, lines 6~7
improve the emission current of the	page 14, line 11	page 14, line 11	page 10, line 36
carbon nanotube emitter			
coating	page 9, line 9	page 9, line 11	page 8, line 27
adhesive material	page 8, lines 31~32	page 8, lines 33~34	page 8, line 18~19
heating	page 9, line 12	page 9, line 14	page 8, line 30
forming an adhesive contact	page 8, lines 31~32	page 8, line 34	page 8, lines 18~19
separating the adhesive material	page 8, line 33	page 8, line 35	page 8, line 20
liquid	page 9, line 9	page 9, line 11	page 8, line 27

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 6

Support in Applicant's Priority Applications for Claim 85

	Present Application SN 09/882,719	Provisional Appl. No. 60/287,930	Provisional Appls. No. 60/213,002 60/213,159
a method for emitter improvement	page 2, lines 37~38	page 3, lines 2~3	page 2, lines 37~38
carbon nanotube surface	page 3, line 16	page 3, lines 19	page 3, line 22
electronic device	page 3, line 2	page 3, line 5	page 3, line 2
forming a new surface	page 10, line 11	page 10, line 12	page 9, line 10
triode	page 3, lines 3~4	page 3, lines 6~7	page 3, line 5
carbon nanotube field emitter display	page 10, line 11	page 10, line 12	page 9, line 10
improve the emission current of the	page 4, lines 1~2	page 4, lines 4~5	page 4, lines 6~7
carbon nanotube emitter	page 14, line 11	page 14, line 11	page 10, line 36
coating	page 9, line 9	page 9, line 11	page 8, line 27
adhesive material	page 8, lines 31~32	page 8, lines 33~34	page 8, line 18~19
heating	page 9, line 12	page 9, line 14	page 8, line 30
forming an adhesive contact	page 8, lines 31~32	page 8, line 34	page 8, lines 18~19
separating the adhesive material	page 8, line 33	page 8, line 35	page 8, line 20
screen printed	page 6, line 26	page 6, line 28	page 6, line 16
substrate	page 6, line 17	page 6, line 19	page 6, line 7
cathode	page 6, line 19	page 6, line 21	page 6, line 9
gate	page 10, line 27	page 10, line 28	page 9, lines 25~26

Application No. 09/882,719
Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
April 14, 2005
Page No. 7

New Claims 83~85 are modeled, respectively, on Claims 1, 2 and 4 of U.S. Application SN 10/653,990, which was filed on September 4, 2003, published as U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0224081 on November 11, 2004, and is assigned to Industrial Technology Research Institute.

An interference between Applicant's present application and U.S. Application SN 10/653,990 is hereby requested. A proposed count for such interference is as follows:

Count 1

A method for carbon nanotube emitter surface improvement, which is used on a carbon nanotube electronic device for forming a new surface of a triode or any structure of a carbon nanotube field emitter display, wherein the method improves the emission current of the carbon nanotube emitter, and wherein the method for carbon nanotube emitter surface improvement comprises the steps of

- coating an adhesive material on the surface of the carbon nanotube field emitter display;
- heating the adhesive material for forming an adhesive contact with the surface; and
- separating the adhesive material from the surface.

A chart comparing Claim 1 of SN 10/653,990 and Claim 83 of this application to the proposed Count 1 is as follows:

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 8

Comparison of Claim 1 and Claim 83 to Count 1

Claim 83	Count 1	Claim 1
a method for emitter improvement	a method for emitter improvement	a method for emitter treatment
carbon nanotube	carbon nanotube	carbon nanotube
surface	surface	surface
electronic device	electronic device	electronics source
forming a new surface	forming a new surface	increasing the number of carbon nanotube exposed
triode	triode	triode
carbon nanotube field emitter display	carbon nanotube field emitter display	carbon nanotube field emitter display
improve the emission current of the carbon nanotube emitter	improve the emission current of the carbon nanotube emitter	advance the current density and intensity of the carbon nanotube emitter
coating	coating	coating
adhesive material	adhesive material	adhesive material
heating	heating	heating
forming an adhesive contact	forming an adhesive contact	adhibiting
separating the adhesive material	separating the adhesive material	lifting the adhesive material off

Application No. 09/882,719
Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
April 14, 2005
Page No. 9

At least Claims 1, 2 and 4 of U.S. Application SN 10/653,990, as published, correspond to Count 1. At least Claims 83~85 of the present application correspond to Count 1. Applicant submits that there is an interference in fact between Claim 83 of this application and Claim 1 of U.S. Application SN 10/653,990 because Claim 83, if earlier, would render Claim 1 unpatentable, and Claim 1, if earlier, would render Claim 83 unpatentable. Claims 2 and 84, and Claims 4 and 85, respectively, similarly constitute interfering subject matter within the meaning of 37 CFR §41.203(a). The differences between Claim 1 and Count 1 are insubstantial. Both of them contain the important steps of providing a coating, heating the coating to form an adhesive contact¹ with the field emitter, and then removing the adhesive material.

Applicant has shown on pages 4~6 above proper support for the contents of Claims 83~85 in each of its applications in the chain of priority, the earliest of which was Provisional Application No. 60/213,002 (filed June 21, 2000). As SN 10/653,990, the application owned by Industrial Technology Research Institute, was filed on September 4, 2003 and makes a foreign priority claim to only a Taiwanese application filed on May 8, 2003, Applicant requests that it be accorded in the interference the benefit of the filing date of its first provisional application, which would make Applicant the senior party in the interference.

III.

Nano-Proprietary, Inc.

Claims 86~90 are supported in the present application, and in Provisional Applications

No. 60/213,002 (filed June 21, 2000),

No. 60/213,159 (filed June 22, 2000) and

No. 60/287,930 (filed May 1, 2001),

to which the present application claims priority, the location in each of the applications in the chain of priority of the specific words and phrases used in Claims 86~90 being shown in the following tables:

¹ The term adhibitting is taken to mean "forming an adhesive contact".

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 10

Support in Applicant's Priority Applications for Claim 86

	Present Application SN 09/882,719	Provisional Appl. No. 60/287,930	Provisional Appls. No. 60/213,002 60/213,159
a method of forming a mixture	page 7, line 11	page 7, line 13	page 7, line 1
carbon nanotubes	page 5, line 23	page 5, line 26	page 5, line 14
particles	page 6, line 37	page 7, line 1	page 6, line 27
depositing	page 7, line 16	page 7, line 18	page 7, line 5
layer	page 7, line 21	page 7, line 23	page 7, line 11
substrate	page 6, line 3	page 6, line 5	page 5, line 31
cathode	page 10, line 11	page 10, line 12	page 9, line 10

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 11

Support in Applicant's Priority Applications for Claim 87

	Present Application SN 09/882,719	Provisional Appl. No. 60/287,930	Provisional Appls. No. 60/213,002 60/213,159
a method of forming a mixture	page 7, line 11	page 7, line 13	page 7, line 1
carbon nanotubes	page 5, line 23	page 5, line 26	page 5, line 14
particles	page 6, line 37	page 7, line 1	page 6, line 27
depositing	page 7, line 16	page 7, line 18	page 7, line 5
layer	page 7, line 21	page 7, line 23	page 7, line 11
substrate	page 6, line 3	page 6, line 5	page 5, line 31
cathode	page 10, line 11	page 10, line 12	page 9, line 10
single wall carbon nanotubes	page 5, line 24	page 5, line 27	page 5, line 15

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 12

Support in Applicant's Priority Applications for Claim 88

Present Application SN 09/882,719		Provisional Appl. No. 60/287,930	Provisional Appls. No. 60/213,002 60/213,159
a method of forming a mixture	page 7, line 11	page 7, line 13	page 7, line 1
carbon nanotubes	page 5, line 23	page 5, line 26	page 5, line 14
particles	page 6, line 37	page 7, line 1	page 6, line 27
depositing	page 7, line 16	page 7, line 18	page 7, line 5
layer	page 7, line 21	page 7, line 23	page 7, line 11
substrate	page 6, line 3	page 6, line 5	page 5, line 31
cathode	page 10, line 11	page 10, line 12	page 9, line 10
milling operation	page 7, line 11	page 7, line 13	page 7, line 1

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 13

Support in Applicant's Priority Applications for Claim 89

Present Application SN 09/882,719	Provisional Appl. No. 60/287,930	Provisional Appls. No. 60/213,002 60/213,159
a method of forming a mixture	page 7, line 13	page 7, line 1
carbon nanotubes	page 5, line 26	page 5, line 14
particles	page 7, line 1	page 6, line 27
depositing	page 7, line 18	page 7, line 5
layer	page 7, line 23	page 7, line 11
substrate	page 6, line 5	page 5, line 31
cathode	page 10, line 12	page 9, line 10
screen printing	page 7, line 16	page 7, line 14

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 14

Support in Applicant's Priority Applications for Claim 90

	Present Application SN 09/882,719	Provisional Appl. No. 60/287,930	Provisional Appls. No. 60/213,002 60/213,159
a method of forming a mixture	page 7, line 11	page 7, line 13	page 7, line 1
carbon nanotubes	page 5, line 23	page 5, line 26	page 5, line 14
particles	page 6, line 37	page 7, line 1	page 6, line 27
depositing	page 7, line 16	page 7, line 18	page 7, line 5
layer	page 7, line 21	page 7, line 23	page 7, line 11
substrate	page 6, line 3	page 6, line 5	page 5, line 31
cathode	page 10, line 11	page 10, line 12	page 9, line 10
volatilize	page 7, line 21	page 7, line 23	page 7, line 10
organic constituents	page 7, lines 20~21	page 7, line 23	page 7, line 10

Application No. 09/882,719
Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
April 14, 2005
Page No. 15

New Claims 86~90 are modeled, respectively, on Claims 14, 15, 17, 19 and 20 of U.S. Application SN 10/879,979, which was filed on June 29, 2004, published as U.S. Patent Application Publication 2005/0001528 on January 6, 2005, and is assigned to Nano-Proprietary, Inc.

An interference between Applicant's present application and U.S. Application SN 10/879,979 is hereby requested. A proposed count for such interference is as follows:

Count 1

A method comprising the steps of
(a) forming a mixture of carbon nanotubes and particles;
and
(b) depositing a layer of the mixture of carbon nanotubes and particles onto a substrate to form a cathode.

A chart comparing Claim 14 of SN 10/879,979 and Claim 86 of the present application to the proposed Count 1 is as follows:

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 16

Comparison of Claim 14 and Claim 86 to Count 1

Claim 14	Count 1	Claim 86
a method of forming a mixture	a method of forming a mixture	a method of forming a mixture
carbon nanotubes	carbon nanotubes	carbon nanotubes
particles	particles	particles
depositing	depositing	depositing
layer	layer	layer
substrate	substrate	substrate
cathode	cathode	cathode

Application No. 09/882,719
Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
April 14, 2005
Page No. 17

At least Claims 14, 15, 17, 19 and 20 of U.S. Application SN 10/879,979, as published, correspond to Count 1. At least Claims 86-90 of the present application correspond to Count 1. Applicant submits that there is an interference in fact between Claim 86 of this application and Claim 14 of U.S. Application SN 10/879,979 because Claim 86, if earlier, would render Claim 14 unpatentable, and Claim 14, if earlier, would render Claim 86 unpatentable. Claims 15 and 87, Claims 17 and 88, Claims 19 and 89, and Claims 20 and 90, respectively, similarly constitute interfering subject matter within the meaning of 37 CFR §41.203(a).

A chart showing where the present application and Applicant's priority applications provide a constructive reduction to practice within the scope of Claims 86, 87, 89 and 90 is as follows:

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 18

Constructive Reduction to Practice for Claims 86, 87, 89 and 90

Present Application SN 09/882,719 Prov. Appl. No. 60/287,930 Prov. Appls. No. 60/213,002
 60/213,159

Claim No.	Subject Matter		
86	forming a mixture of carbon nanotubes and particles, and depositing a layer on a substrate to form a cathode	Examples 1, 2, 3, 4, 5-8, 9-11 and 12	Examples 1, 2, 3, 4, 5-8, 9-11 and 12
87	single wall carbon nanotubes	Examples 1, 2, 5-8, 9-11 and 12	Examples 1, 2, 5-8, 9-11 and 12
89	screen printing	Examples 1, 2, 3, 4, 5-8, 9-11 and 12	Examples 1, 2, 3, 4, 5-8, 9-11 and 12
90	volatilizing organic constituents	Examples 1, 2, 3, 4, 5-8, 9-11 and 12	Examples 1, 2, 3, 4, 5-8, 9-11 and 12

Application No. 09/882,719
Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
April 14, 2005
Page No. 19

Applicant has shown on pages 10~14 above proper support for the contents of Claims 86~90 in each of its applications in the chain of priority, the earliest of which was Provisional Application No. 60/213,002 (filed June 21, 2000). As SN 10/879,979, the application owned by Nano-Proprietary, Inc., was filed on June 29, 2004 and appears to claim the benefit of only a provisional application filed on October 9, 2002, Applicant requests that it be accorded in the interference the benefit of the filing date of its first provisional application, which would make Applicant the senior party in the interference.

Although Applicant asserts that its invention of the subject matter of Claims 86~90 is prior to the invention of Claims 14, 15, 17, 19 and 20 in U.S. Appl. SN 10/879,979, Applicant does not waive the right to comment on the patentability of the subject matter of Claims 86~90 or Claims 14, 15, 17, 19 and 20 in view of any prior art that may exist.

IV.

Claim 91 is supported in the present application, and in Provisional Applications

No. 60/213,002 (filed June 21, 2000),
No. 60/213,159 (filed June 22, 2000) and
No. 60/287,930 (filed May 1, 2001),

to which the present application claims priority, the location in each of the applications in the chain of priority of the specific words and phrases used in Claim 91 being shown in the following table:

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 20

Support in Applicant's Priority Applications for Claim 91

	Present Application SN 09/882,719	Provisional Appl. No. 60/287,930	Provisional Appls. No. 60/213,002 60/213,159
a method of forming a mixture	page 7, line 11	page 7, line 13	page 7, line 1
carbon nanotubes	page 5, line 23	page 5, line 26	page 5, line 14
particles	page 6, line 37	page 7, line 1	page 6, line 27
depositing	page 7, line 16	page 7, line 18	page 7, line 5
layer	page 7, line 21	page 7, line 23	page 7, line 11
substrate	page 6, line 3	page 6, line 5	page 5, line 31
cathode	page 10, line 11	page 10, line 12	page 9, line 10
taping process	page 9, line 17	page 9, line 19	page 8, line 34
improve the emissions	page 9, line 19	page 9, line 21	page 8, line 36

Application No. 09/882,719
Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
April 14, 2005
Page No. 21

New Claim 91 is modeled on Claim 21 of U.S. Application SN 10/879,979, which was filed on June 29, 2004, published as U.S. Patent Application Publication 2005/0001528 on January 6, 2005, and is assigned to Nano-Proprietary, Inc.

An interference between Applicant's present application and U.S. Application SN 10/879,979 with respect to the subject matter of Claim 91 is also requested. A proposed count for such interference is as follows:

Count 2

A method comprising the steps of
(a) forming a mixture of carbon nanotubes and particles;
and
(b) depositing a layer of the mixture of carbon nanotubes and particles onto a substrate to form a cathode,
wherein the method further comprises a taping process to improve the emissions of the cathode.

A chart comparing Claim 21 of SN 10/879,979 and Claim 91 of the present application to the proposed Count 2 is as follows:

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 22

Comparison of Claim 21 and Claim 91 to Count 2

Claim 91	Count 2	Claim 21
a method of forming a mixture carbon nanotubes particles depositing layer substrate cathode taping process improve the emissions	a method of forming a mixture carbon nanotubes particles depositing layer substrate cathode taping process improve the emissions	a method of forming a mixture carbon nanotubes particles depositing layer substrate cathode taping process activate the cathode

Application No. 09/882,719
Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
April 14, 2005
Page No. 23

At least Claim 21 of U.S. Application SN 10/879,979, as published, corresponds to Count 2. At least Claim 91 of the present application corresponds to Count 2. Applicant submits that there is an interference in fact between Claim 91 of this application and Claim 21 of U.S. Application SN 10/879,979 because Claim 91, if earlier, would render Claim 21 unpatentable, and Claim 21, if earlier, would render Claim 91 unpatentable.

A chart showing where the present application and Applicant's priority applications provide a constructive reduction to practice within the scope of Claim 91 is as follows:

Application No. 09/882,719
 Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
 Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
 April 14, 2005
 Page No. 24

Constructive Reduction to Practice for Claim 91

Subject Matter	Present Application SN 09/882,719	Prov. Appl. No. 60/287,930	Prov. Appls. No. 60/213,002 60/213,159
forming a mixture of carbon nanotubes and particles, and depositing a layer on a substrate to form a cathode	Examples 1~11	Examples 1~11	Examples 1~11
taping	Examples 1~11	Examples 1~11	Examples 1~11
improve emissions	Examples 1~11	Examples 1~11	Examples 1~11

Application No. 09/882,719
Art Unit 2875, Examiner Macchiarolo
Docket No. CL-1673 US NA
April 14, 2005
Page No. 25

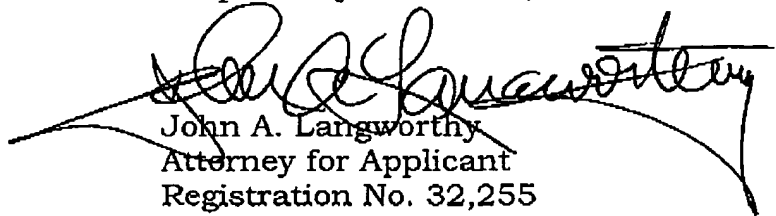
Applicant has shown on page 20 above proper support for the contents of Claim 91 in each of its applications in the chain of priority, the earliest of which was Provisional Application No. 60/213,002 (filed June 21, 2000). As SN 10/879,979, the application owned by Nano-Proprietary, Inc., was filed on June 29, 2004 and appears to claim the benefit of only a provisional application filed on October 9, 2002, Applicant requests that it be accorded in the interference the benefit of the filing date of its first provisional application, which would make Applicant the senior party in the interference.

V.

Applicant has previously requested that an interference be declared between this application and U.S. Patent 6,436,221, which is also assigned to Industrial Technology Research Institute.

Applicant respectfully requests that, after examination of Claims 83-91, a notice of allowability of those claims be issued, and that the case be forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences with a favorable recommendation for the declaration of an interference between this application and U.S. Application SN 10/653,990, and between this application and U.S. Application SN 10/879,979.

Respectfully submitted,



John A. Langworthy
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 32,255
Telephone: (302) 992-4362
Facsimile: (302) 992-5374